

REMARKS**I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 3 and 10-12 are the only claim currently pending in the application. Claims 11 and 12 have been allowed.

By this Amendment, claims 1-2 and 4-9 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 3 and 10 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced by this Amendment. Thus, entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

II. Response to Claim Objections and Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103:

Claim 7 has been objected to because of the informalities. Claims 1-2 and 4-6 and 8-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Nagoshi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,965,596, hereafter Nagoshi). Additionally, claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagoshi in view of Fukazawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,113,206, hereafter Fukazawa). Claims 1-2 and 4-9 have been canceled rendering the objection and rejections to the claims moot.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated in the Office Action that claims 3 and 10 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claims 3 and 10 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Claims 3 and 10 are now believed to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the application.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-5221.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-5221.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: 09/06/05

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